

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, D. C., February 14, 1899.

Hon. Conrad N. Jordan,
Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

Your long experience as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer leads me to inquire what, in your judgment, the Mint Bureau may expect in the way of demands for new subsidiary coin in the coming Spring months. As you know, the stock of coin in the Treasury was reduced in December last to the lowest point it has reached for many years, and I believe the lowest since the Resumption of specie payments in 1879. I understand that in the usual course of business there has been, in the past, a very heavy return of subsidiary coin to the Treasury during the month of January, but I am told that this has not been the case during the month just closed. Has there, in your opinion been a sufficient return to meet the increased demand that usually comes in the Spring? Or ought we to prepare for that by coinage at the present time? I am also informed that something like \$1,000,000 of subsidiary coin will be wanted by the War Department to make the payments in Cuba which have been agreed upon.

In view of this demand I am especially desirous of having your opinion upon the situation.

Very truly yours,

Director of the Mint.

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Office of the Treasurer,
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[Signature] George E. Roberts
Director of the Mint.